

DECEMBER 21, 2001

HARP ESTATES (COVINGTON ESTATES) SITE PLAN REVIEW

OLD UNIMPROVED SECTION OF FORGE HILL ROAD RUNS THROUGH THIS PROPERTY.

CONTINENTAL MANOR I, WHEN THEY BULL DOZED INTO THE PROPERTY HAD DISRUPTED THE ROADWAY DURING THE 1980'S.

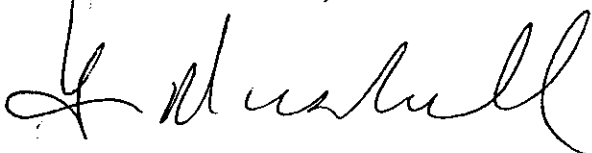
REGARDING THE RECORDS FOR ABANDONED ROADS, THIS IS STILL A TOWN ROAD. IT IS AN ORIGINAL UNIMPROVED TOWN ROAD THAT PREDATES THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR. THIS ROAD ALSO SERVED AS THE MAIN ENTRANCE AND ACCESS TO THE ENCAMPMENT OF THE ARMY IN 1782 AND 1783. THERE IS A SMALL SITE WHERE THE PROVOST HAD A BUILDING FACILITY ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE ROADWAY, WHICH THERE CLEARLY WAS A VISABLE FOUNDATION AND CHIMNEY ROOM OF A STRUCTURE OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR PERIOD.

THE ROADWAY IS ALSO CLEARLY VISABLE ON THE SIMEON DE WITT MAP OF 1782/1783 TITLED: THE WINTER ENCAMPMENT OF THE CONTINENTAL ARMY. IT IS ALSO A DESIGNATED GREENWAY CONNECTING TRAIL AS ALL OF FORGE HILL ROAD IS. IT IS ALSO PLANNED AS PART OF THE "NATIONAL REVOLUTIONARY WAR TRAIL NETWORK" THAT IS PRESENTLY IN THE PLANNING STAGES BY NEW YORK STATE AND THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TO GO FROM NEW PORT RHODE ISLAND TO YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA AS A COMMEMORATIVE TRAIL. THIS WOULD BE PART OF THE FINAL LEG OF THAT TRAIL.

THIS IS THE ONLY ORIGINAL UNIMPROVED SECTION OF TOWN ROAD STILL IN EXISTANCE WHICH IS BOUNDED ON BOTH SIDES BY STONE WALLS, WITH EXCEPTION TO THE WALLS THAT WERE DESTROYED BY CONTINENTAL MANOR I AND NOT RESTORED AS PROMISED. I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THE ROADWAY BE MAINTAINED AS IS DUE TO THE FACT THAT IT IS AND HAS BEEN USED AS A FOOT PATH AND IT IS A PLANNED HISTORIC TRAIL TO CONNECT FROM KNOX HEADQUARTERS TO THE CANTONEMENT. THIS TRAIL HAS BEEN USED BY SCHOOL GROUPS IN THE PAST AND DURING THE 1983 BICENTENIAL CELEBRATIONS AND AT SEVERAL OTHER TIMES TO COMMEMORATE THE FINAL MARCH OF THE ARMY FROM VERPLANCK TO NEW WINDSOR WHERE THEY SET UP THEIR CAMP.

IN SUMMARY: I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THIS ROADWAY BE LEFT IN ITS STATE AS IT EXISTS TODAY, PRESERVED INTACT AS A MEMORIAL TO THE MEN THAT MARCHED OVER IT SO MANY YEARS AGO.

GLENN MARSHALL, TOWN HISTORIAN

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Marshall', written in a cursive style.